

**Examiner's Statement**

1. This action is responsive to the communication filed on July 10, 2000. Claims 1 –23 are pending.

2. Claims 1-23 have been allowed.

3. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.109 and M.P.E.P 1302.14, the following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach neither singly or in combination the claimed limitations of "a hierarchical memory comprising a top-level associative memory and a second level associative memory which receives data strings after detecting a match, from top-level memory and second level memory outputs a result in response to matching the data strings fields from top-level memory and identifying the coordinate sub-fields of records, determining the number of distinct values, computing minimum number of bits that represent each of the distinct value, assign a unique coordinate value (UCV), generating a unique coordinate value sequence by concatenating the UCVs and loading the hierarchical memory" as in claims 1 –23.

Any comments considered necessary by application must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fees and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statements of Reasons for Allowance."

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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sahera Halim whose telephone number is (703) 305-8054. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (703) 308-7562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Sahera Halim  
Patent Examiner  
AU: 2157

January 12, 2004

  
ZARNI MAUNG  
PRIMARY EXAMINER